Musculoskeletal CT examination

You have received a request for a CT examination. The unit responsible for your care will inform you of the time and place of the examination.

Duration of the examination is approximately 15 minutes. The radiology department also examines emergency patients, which may cause changes to the schedule. Please reserve 60 minutes for the examination.

Preparation for examination

If lying still is painful for you, please take pain medication. You are allowed to eat and drink prior to the scan. Take your routine medication according to your physician's instructions.

If you are hypersensitive to iodine-bearing contrast medium or you are/suspect you might be pregnant, please inform of this to the treating doctor or radiographer before the procedure.

Examination

X-ray computed tomography (CT) forms cross-sectional images of the targeted area using x-rays. The procedure is painless. During the examination, you need to lie still as motion causes image distortion. The radiographer will be able to talk to you, hear and see you during the scan.

When needed, iodinated contrast medium is administered intravenously through an IV catheter on the hand or elbow. The contrast agent improves the visibility of blood vessels and different tissues. The contrast medium may cause a momentary sensation of warmth and sometimes metallic taste in the mouth. The contrast medium will excrete through the urine.

After the examination

Your treating doctor will inform you of the results of the examination. If you have not already been booked for an appointment or for a phone consultation, please contact the unit treating you in order to obtain the results.

Other things to note

Please take your health insurance card (Kela card) or identity card with you.

A separate fee will be charged for examinations which have not been cancelled.

These instructions are on the HUS website: www.hus-imaging.fi > Examinations > > Computed Tomography.

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